WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising the steps of:

establishing a communications link between a client and a server;

receiving applet information by the client from the server;

establishing a communications link between the client and a service using the applet information; and

directing user interface I/O control of the service to the client using the applet information.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes using a URL.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes opening an internet protocol connection between the client and the server.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes

confirming user access privileges for communicating between the client and the server.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of

receiving configuration data by the client; and

configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data to provide a user-specific user interface to the client.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the service includes accessing the service using a proxy.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of directing user interface I/O control includes directing user interface I/O control of the service to an applet on the client.

8. A method comprising the steps of:

establishing a communications link between a client and a server;

downloading configuration data from the master server to the client;

configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data;

establishing a communications link between the client and a service using the configured client; and

directing user interface I/O control of the service to the configured client.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes using a URL.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes opening an internet protocol connection between the client and the server.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes confirming user access privileges for communicating between the client and the server.

12. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of

receiving configuration data by the client; and

configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data to provide a user-specific user interface to the client.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of establishing a communications link between the client and the service includes accessing the service using a proxy.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of directing user interface I/O control includes directing user interface I/O control of the service to an applet on the client.

15. A system comprising:

means for establishing a communications link between a client and a server;

means for receiving applet information by the client from the server;

means for establishing a communications link between the client and a service using the applet information; and

means for directing user interface I/O control of the service to the client using the applet information.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes means for using a URL.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes means for opening an internet protocol connection between the client and the server.

18. The system of claim 15, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes means for confirming user access privileges for communicating between the client and the server.

19. The system of claim 15, further comprising

means for receiving configuration data by the client; and

means for configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data to provide a user-specific user interface to the client.

20. The system of claim 1, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the service includes means for accessing the service using a proxy.

21. The system of claim 1, wherein the means for directing user interface I/O control includes means for directing user interface I/O control of the service to an applet on the client.

22. A system comprising:

means for establishing a communications link between a client and a server;

means for downloading configuration data from the master server to the client;

means for configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data;

means for establishing a communications link between the client and a service using the configured client; and

means for directing user interface I/O control of the service to the configured client.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes means for using a URL.

24. The system of claim 22, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes means for opening an internet protocol connection between the client and the server.

25. The system of claim 22, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the server includes means for confirming user access privileges for communicating between the client and the server.

26. The system of claim 22, further comprising

means for receiving configuration data by the client; and

means for configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data to provide a user-specific user interface to the client.

27. The system of claim 22, wherein the means for establishing a communications link between the client and the service includes means for accessing the service using a proxy.

28. The system of claim 22, wherein the means for directing user interface I/O control includes means for directing user interface I/O control of the service to an applet on the client.

29. A computer-readable medium for storing a program for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

establishing a communications link between a client and a server;

receiving applet information by the client from the server;

establishing a communications link between the client and a service using the applet information; and

directing user interface I/O control of the service to the client using the applet information.

30. A computer-readable medium for storing a program for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

establishing a communications link between a client and a server;

downloading configuration data from the master server to the client;

configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data;

establishing a communications link between the client and a service using the configured client; and

directing user interface I/O control of the service to the configured client.

31. A system comprising:

a communications engine for establishing a communications link with a server;

a browser, coupled to the communications engine, for receiving applet information corresponding to a service from the server; and

an applet engine for using the applet information to control user interface I/O of the service.

32. The system of claim 31, wherein the communications engine establishes a communications link between the client and the server using a URL.

33. The system of claim 31, wherein the communications engine establishes a communications link between the client and the server

by opening an internet protocol connection between the client and the server.

34. The system of claim 31, wherein the communications engine confirms user access privileges for communicating between the client and the server before establishing a communications link between the client and the server.

35. The system of claim 31, wherein the communications engine receives configuration data, and further comprising a configuration engine for configuring attributes of the client using the configuration data to provide a user-specific user interface to the client.

36. The system of claim 31, wherein the applet engine establishes a communications link between the client and the service via a proxy.

37. The system of claim 31, further comprising an applet and wherein the applet engine uses the applet to direct user interface I/O control of the service to the applet.

38. A system comprising:

downloadable applet information corresponding to downloadable applets for enabling a client to control user interface I/O of a service;

a communications engine for downloading the applet information across a communications link to the client; and

an applet host engine for enabling a downloaded one of the downloadable applets to direct user interface I/O control of the service to the client.

39. The system of claim 38, further comprising configuration data for configuring the client to provide the client with a consistent user interface for controlling the service.

40. The system of claim 38, wherein the communications engine establishes a communications link with the client across an internet.

41. The system of claim 38, wherein the communications engine confirms user access privileges for receiving communications from the client.

42. The system of claim 38, wherein the applet host engine provides a proxy service to direct user interface I/O control to the client.